

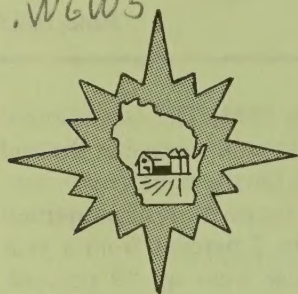
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# Farm Reporter

VOL. V, NO. 8

PROCUREMENT SECTION  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

June 1973

## Cream of the News

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during May was 3 percent under a year earlier, the fourth consecutive month that the State's milk production was below the previous year.

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks at Wisconsin primary markets increased nearly 1 cent a pound from April to May but the Swiss cheese price remained unchanged.

Red meat output in Wisconsin during April was 5½ percent below a year ago as pork production continued lower.

Wisconsin farmers are expected to receive an average of \$6.10 a hundredweight for all milk sold in May, an increase of 3 cents from April in contrast to the usual seasonal decline.

Butter production in Wisconsin during 1972 was down 2 percent from a year earlier but cheese production was at a record level for the 10th consecutive year.

Stocks of meat and dairy products in cold storage in the Nation at the end of May were down from a year earlier.

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all farm products sold during the month ending at mid-May were up 2 percent from the previous month due to increases for milk, cattle, calves, poultry, and some crops.

Production of mink pelts in Wisconsin during 1972 was 11 percent below 1971 while the Nation's mink production showed a decline of 12 percent.

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market averaged \$36.57 a hundredweight in May, up 87 cents from April and \$11.17 above a year ago.

Wisconsin farmers had 4 percent more hogs and pigs on farms June 1 than a year earlier but the Nation had a decline of 1 percent.

Cheese production in the Nation during April was up 3 percent from last year but butter output was down 15 percent.

## MILK PRODUCTION CONTINUES BELOW A YEAR AGO

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during May totaled 1,844 million pounds, 3 percent under a year ago. This was the fourth consecutive month that the State's milk production was below the previous year. From January through May, milk production in Wisconsin was 1 percent less than that period last year.

Production of milk increased seasonally 5½ percent from April to May compared with a gain of over 7 percent for those months in 1972. Output per cow averaged 1,015 pounds in May, down 20 pounds from a year earlier. There were 1,817,000 milk cows on Wisconsin farms during May, a decline of 15,000 from May 1972.

The Nation's milk production in May was 2 percent below a year ago. Production per cow for May was unchanged from last year at 964 pounds but the number of milk cows on farms dropped 2 percent.

Milk Production

Selected States	May 1972	May 1973	Jan.-May 1973	Change from last year	
				May	Jan.-May
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . . .	1,896	1,844	8,417	- 3	- 1
Minnesota . . . .	966	960	4,422	- 1	- 2
Iowa . . . . .	431	428	1,910	- 1	- 2
New York . . . .	981	935	4,261	- 5	- 6
Pennsylvania . .	658	623	2,873	- 5	- 6
California . . . .	931	932	4,347	n. c.	+ 2
Other states . . .	5,440	5,356	24,342	- 2	- 2
United States . .	11,303	11,078	50,572	- 2	- 2

## MILK PRICE RISES TO NEW HIGH

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during May are expected to average \$6.10 a hundredweight. This would be an increase of 3 cents from April in contrast to the usual seasonal decline. Milk prices have risen 15 cents a hundredweight since February.

The all milk price for April was \$6.07 a hundredweight, up 4 cents from March and 66 cents higher than April 1972. Milkfat content averaged 3.71 percent in April, the same as a

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year earlier.

Producers for the Grade A market received an average of \$6.20 a hundredweight during April, a gain of 6 cents from March and 61 cents above the previous year. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$5.90 a hundredweight for April, an increase of 3 cents from a month earlier and 71 cents more than last year. The spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 30 cents in April compared with a difference of 40 cents for that month in 1972.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	March 1973		April price per cwt.			May 1973 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1972	1973	73/72 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . . . .	3.71	6.03	5.41	6.07	+ 12	6.10
Minnesota . . . . .	3.58	5.63	5.11	5.67	+ 11	5.73
Iowa . . . . .	3.74	5.87	5.30	5.88	+ 11	5.85
New York . . . . .	3.60	6.60	5.75	6.35	+ 10	6.25
California . . . . .	3.67	6.10	5.50	5.95	+ 8	5.80
United States . . . . .	3.68	6.52	5.84	6.40	+ 10	6.34
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . . . .	3.71	6.14	5.59	6.20	+ 11	xxx
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	3.71	5.87	5.19	5.90	+ 14	xxx
Creameries . . . . .	3.67	5.79	5.14	5.81	+ 13	xxx
Cheese factories . . . . .	3.71	5.88	5.20	5.91	+ 14	xxx
Varied prod. plants . . . . .	3.70	5.82	5.16	5.85	+ 13	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	April 1972	March 1973	April 1973 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses . . . . .	5.10	5.69	5.73	+ 12
Market milk . . . . .	5.26	5.79	5.85	+ 11
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	4.92	5.54	5.57	+ 13
Creameries . . . . .	4.90	5.52	5.54	+ 13
American cheese plants . . . . .	4.91	5.56	5.58	+ 14
Varied products plants . . . . .	4.91	5.51	5.53	+ 13
Federal Order Markets Chicago Regional Base Zone . . . . .	5.54	6.07	6.13	+ 11

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

## BUTTER AND CHEESE STOCKS LOWER

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation at the end of May were down from a year earlier. Butter stocks in cold storage on May 31 totaled almost 143 million pounds,

10 percent less than on that date in 1972. The Government held 104½ million pounds of butter in cold storage at the end of May, a decline of 18 percent from the previous year.

Total cheese stocks in cold storage on May 31 amounted to nearly 332 million pounds, down 2 percent from a year ago. Although stocks of Swiss cheese were up 39 percent, American cheese supplies in cold storage were down 1 percent and all other cheese stocks declined 17 percent. The Government owned only 189,000 pounds of American cheese in cold storage on May 31 compared with 403,000 pounds a year earlier.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	May 31, 1971	May 31, 1972	May 31, 1973	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter . . . . .	209,786	159,105	142,856	- 10
Cheese, American . . . . .	268,823	275,042	272,657	- 1
Cheese, Swiss . . . . .	11,248	8,824	12,223	+ 39
Cheese, all other . . . . .	57,306	56,513	47,020	- 17
Cheese, total . . . . .	337,377	340,370	331,900	- 2
	WISCONSIN			
Butter . . . . .	9,245	7,570	7,690	+ 2
Cheese, American . . . . .	158,634	157,635	179,101	+ 14
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter . . . . .	176,312	127,283	104,543	- 18
Cheese, American . . . . .	1,726	403	189	- 53

\*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products  
United States

Commodity	April 30, 1971	April 30, 1972	April 30, 1973	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk . . . . .	5,611	5,289	5,177	- 2
Dried skim milk . . . . .	101,682	79,367	57,797	- 27
Dried buttermilk . . . . .	7,529	5,024	5,066	+ 1
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . . . . .	51,247	76,475	56,185	- 27

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

## CHEESE PRODUCTION UP BUT BUTTER OUTPUT DOWN SHARPLY

Production of all cheese in the Nation during April was 3 percent higher than a year ago but butter production was down 15 percent. Although output of American cheese was 2 percent lower in April than last year, production of other varieties increased 12 percent. Italian cheese production during April was up 17 percent from the previous year. Output of Brick and Muenster was down 6 percent but Swiss cheese production was 6 percent above April 1972. All other cheese showed an increase of 11 percent from April last year.

Wisconsin cheese plants manufactured 68 million pounds of American cheese in April, about the same as a year earlier. Minnesota increased its output of American cheese 10 percent from April a year ago but Missouri was down 25 percent and other states had a decline of 3 percent.

Butter production during April was down considerably. Wisconsin creameries churned 18½ million pounds of butter in April, a decline of 10 percent from a year earlier. Minnesota made 15 percent less butter in April than last year while Iowa and the other states showed declines of 17 percent.

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The Nation's production of cottage cheese curd during April was 8 percent more than in April 1972 and output of creamed cottage cheese increased 2 percent. Ice cream production in the Nation was also 2 percent above last year.

#### Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	April 1972	April 1973	Jan.- April 1973	Change from last year	
				April	Jan.-Apr.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin . . . . .	20,450	18,450	70,570	- 10	- 5
Minnesota . . . . .	27,000	23,075	82,275	- 15	- 20
Iowa . . . . .	8,050	6,700	25,150	- 17	- 20
Other states . . . . .	54,750	45,511	186,966	- 17	- 11
United States . . . . .	110,250	93,736	364,961	- 15	- 13
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin . . . . .	68,200	68,000	246,650	n. c.	- 1
Minnesota . . . . .	18,040	19,830	75,880	+ 10	+ 11
Missouri . . . . .	8,700	6,500	21,800	- 25	- 16
Other states . . . . .	58,950	56,941	193,257	- 3	- 6
United States . . . . .	153,890	151,271	537,587	- 2	- 2
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss . . . . .	14,585	15,474	59,679	+ 6	+ 5
Brick and Muenster . . . . .	6,255	5,874	23,384	- 6	- 2
Italian . . . . .	41,585	48,724	176,214	+ 17	+ 7
All other . . . . .	15,780	17,491	65,100	+ 11	n. c.
Total . . . . .	78,205	87,563	324,377	+ 12	+ 4
ALL CHEESE					
United States . . . . .	232,095	238,834	861,964	+ 3	n. c.
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/ . . . . .	65,030	70,503	275,292	+ 8	+ 3
Creamed 2/ . . . . .	87,370	89,131	350,877	+ 2	- 1
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,460	1,150	5,380	- 21	- 9
Illinois . . . . .	3,500	3,500	14,200	n. c.	+ 18
Iowa . . . . .	615	570	2,340	- 7	- 6
Michigan . . . . .	2,850	2,910	11,870	+ 2	+ 6
Minnesota . . . . .	2,250	2,335	9,540	+ 4	+ 6
Other states . . . . .	51,720	52,912	198,923	+ 2	n. c.
United States . . . . .	62,395	63,377	242,253	+ 2	+ 2

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

#### WHOLESALE CHEDDAR CHEESE PRICE HIGHER

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 66.68 cents a pound at Wisconsin primary markets in May, an increase of nearly 1 cent from April and almost 9 cents more than May 1972. Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 81½ cents a pound during May, the same as April but 9 cents above last year. This was the first time since July 1972 that wholesale prices of Swiss cheese did not increase from a month earlier.

The 92-score wholesale butter price at New York averaged about 62 cents a pound in May, down 6¾ cents from the previous year.

#### Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	May 1972	April 1973	May 1/ 1973
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . . .	68.75¢	2/	61.99¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 3/ . . .	57.75¢	65.75¢	66.68¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 3/ . . .	72.50¢	81.50¢	81.50¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range . . .	\$7.70-9.10	\$8.65-10.10	\$ — — —
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound . . .	31.36¢	43.98¢	45.20¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Not available. 3/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

#### 1972 MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Butter production in Wisconsin during 1972 was down 2 percent from a year earlier but cheese production was at a record level for the 10th consecutive year.

Wisconsin creameries churned over 198 million pounds of butter in 1972, about 3½ million pounds less than in 1971. Total cheese production exceeded a billion pounds for the first time. All of the major varieties showed production gains in 1972. Output of American cheese, which accounted for 69 percent of all cheese, was 9 percent greater in 1972 than in 1971. Wisconsin cheese factories made almost 732 million pounds of American cheese in 1972. The production of cheddar was up 7 percent and other types of American cheese increased 24 percent.

Record amounts of American, Italian, Muenster, and Blue cheese were produced in 1972. Italian cheese production totaled over 179 million pounds, 8 percent more than in 1972. Output of Muenster cheese amounted to almost 36 million pounds, up 11 percent from the previous year. Both Brick and Swiss cheese showed production gains of 7 percent in 1972 compared with a year earlier.

Output of Limburger cheese in 1972 was 8 percent higher than 1971 while production of all other cheese declined 6 percent.

#### Manufactured Dairy Products, Wisconsin, 1971-72

Product	Unit	1971	1972 1/	Change from last year
		Thousands		Percent
Creamery butter (including whey butter) . .	Lb.	202,320	198,699	- 2
<b>Cheese</b>				
American .....	Lb.	671,417	731,704	+ 9
Cheddar .....	Lb.	579,722	618,330	+ 7
Other types 2/ .....	Lb.	91,695	113,374	+ 24
Swiss (drum and block) .....	Lb.	35,312	37,747	+ 7
Muenster .....	Lb.	32,078	35,753	+ 11
Brick .....	Lb.	13,506	14,423	+ 7
Brick and Muenster Total .....	Lb.	45,584	50,176	+ 10
Limburger .....	Lb.	1,097	1,180	+ 8
Italian .....	Lb.	165,566	179,435	+ 8
All other cheese (excluding cottage cheese)	Lb.	67,393	63,470	- 6
Total cheese (excluding cottage cheese) . .	Lb.	986,369	1,063,712	+ 8
<b>Condensed and powdered products</b>				
Sweetened condensed whole milk, (bulk goods) .....	Lb.	31,174	60,035	+ 93
Unsweetened condensed whole milk, (bulk goods) .....	Lb.	26,911	24,805	- 8
Evaporated whole milk unsweetened, (case goods) .....	Lb.	3/	3/	xxx
Total condensed whole milk .....	Lb.	58,085	84,840	+ 46
<b>Condensed skim milk (bulk goods)</b>				
Sweetened .....	Lb.	42,227	40,404	- 4
Unsweetened .....	Lb.	184,122	182,994	- 1
Total sweetened and unsweetened skim milk .....	Lb.	226,349	223,398	- 1
<b>Condensed whey</b> .....	Lb.	190,873	63,352	- 67
<b>Dried skim milk for human use</b>				
Spray process .....	Lb.	181,100	139,901	- 23
Roller process .....	Lb.	—	—	—
Total spray and roller .....	Lb.	181,100	139,901	- 23
Dried skim milk for animal feed .....	Lb.	842	609	- 28
Dried whole milk .....	Lb.	4,637	5,378	+ 16
Dried buttermilk .....	Lb.	9,350	8,156	- 13
Dried whey .....	Lb.	332,884	354,028	+ 6
Malted milk powder .....	Lb.	17,649	16,515	- 6
<b>Other products</b>				
Ice cream .....	Gal.	20,010	18,893	- 6
Ice milk .....	Gal.	5,052	4,893	- 3
Cottage cheese curd .....	Lb.	39,971	43,644	+ 9
Cottage cheese creamed .....	Lb.	54,236	60,236	+ 11

1/Preliminary. 2/Includes Colby, Jack, Monterey and Granular. 3/Production not shown when less than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations might be disclosed.



Non-fat dry milk production was down sharply in 1972. The 140½ million pounds of non-fat dry milk produced was 23 percent below 1971 and the lowest since 1941. Output of dried buttermilk for 1972 was 13 percent under a year earlier but production of dried whole milk increased 16 percent. A record amount of 354 million pounds of dried whey was produced in 1972, up 6 percent from 1971.

Nearly 85 million pounds of whole condensed milk (bulk goods) was manufactured in 1972, a record total and 46 percent more than in 1971. Production of condensed skim milk declined 1 percent from 1971 to 1972. Output of condensed whey in 1972 was only a third of the 1971 total.

Ice cream production during 1972 was nearly 19 million gallons, 6 percent under the previous year and the lowest total since 1953. Output of ice milk in 1972 was down 3 percent from 1971. A record amount of cottage cheese was made in 1972. Production of cottage cheese curd was up 9 percent from 1971 while creamed cottage cheese increased 11 percent.

## BUTTER PRODUCTION TO REMAIN DOWN SHARPLY

Weekly estimates of butter production in the Nation for May indicate churnings will remain sharply lower than a year earlier. The Nation's butter output in May will be about 17 percent below last year. Production of butter in April was down 15 percent and churnings during January through April were 13 percent less than in 1972. Wisconsin's butter production for May will also be down from the previous year.

The Nation's production of American cheese in May will be about equal to a year ago after showing a 2 percent decline in April and the first four months of 1973. Wisconsin cheese factories will show an increased output of American cheese in May. The State's production of American cheese from January through April was 1 percent below those months in 1972.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1973	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1973	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
April . . . . .	93,736	- 15	- 10	151,271	- 2	n. c.
Jan.-April . .	364,961	- 13	- 5	537,587	- 2	- 1
Weeks ending						
May 10 . . .	21,950	- 16	- 11	37,700	n. c.	+ 7
May 17 . . .	22,300	- 17	- 6	38,800	+ 1	+ 9
May 24 . . .	22,150	- 18	- 4	39,100	- 1	+ 3
May 31 . . .	23,600	- 16	- 7	40,500	- 1	- 1
Total . . . . .	90,000	- 17	xxx	156,100	n. c.	xxx

## MEAT STOCKS REMAIN LOWER

Stocks of meat in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of May were 13 percent under the previous year. Although beef stocks were up 23 percent, the supply of pork in cold storage was down 33 percent.

Beef stocks amounted to almost 340 million pounds on May 31, about 21 million pounds less than a month earlier but more than 63 million pounds above last year.

There were 254 million pounds of pork in cold storage at the end of May. This was an increase of 5½ million pounds from the previous month but 126½ million pounds below May 31, 1972. Frozen pork bellies amounted to 56 million pounds at the end of May, up 13 percent from a month earlier but 58 percent under a year ago.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat  
United States

Commodity	May 31, 1971	May 31, 1972	April 30, 1973	May 31, 1973	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef:					
Frozen . . . . .	277,220	266,520	350,524	329,740	+ 24
In cure and cured . . . . .	7,855	10,066	9,899	9,971	- 1
Total . . . . .	285,075	276,586	360,423	339,711	+ 23
Pork:					
Frozen . . . . .	471,543	359,435	234,110	238,692	- 34
In cooler . . . . .	23,254	22,064	14,388	15,356	- 30
Total . . . . .	494,797	381,499	248,498	254,048	- 33
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen . . . . .	9,511	8,896	13,223	11,967	+ 35
Lamb and mutton, frozen . . . . .	22,506	19,916	13,214	14,475	- 27
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams . . . . .	66,639	88,404	54,043	62,255	- 30
Other meats . . . . .	18,898	22,238	16,966	15,225	- 32
Total, all meats . . . . .	897,426	797,539	706,367	697,681	- 13

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM YEAR AGO

Red meat production in Wisconsin's commercial slaughter plants during April was 5½ percent lower than a year ago. Output of beef was down 1 percent from April 1972 while pork production declined 10 percent.

There were 81,000 cattle slaughtered in April, down 1,000 from the previous year. Average liveweight of cattle for April was 1,138 pounds, only 1 pound lighter than in April 1972.

Hog slaughter for April totaled 260,000, a decline of 33,000 from last year and nearly 100,000 fewer than two years ago. Hogs averaged 240 pounds liveweight for April, a gain of 4 pounds from a year earlier.

The April calf kill of 14,300 was 5,000 less than the previous year. Calf liveweight averaged 200 pounds, up 25 pounds from April 1972 and equal to the high reached in July 1972. Sheep and lamb slaughter numbered 200 in April, the same as a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	April		Change from last year	April	
	1972	1973		1972	1973
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin . . . . .	82.0	81.0	- 1	93.4	92.2
United States 1/ . .	2,761.9	2,402.7	- 13	2,870.0	2,478.0
Calves					
Wisconsin . . . . .	19.3	14.3	- 26	3.4	2.9
United States 1/ . .	239.1	170.9	- 29	59.4	42.6
Hogs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	293.0	260.0	- 11	69.1	62.4
United States 1/ . .	7,256.1	6,357.2	- 12	1,723.9	1,515.8
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	.2	.2	n. c.	.019	.020
United States 1/ . .	821.5	732.4	- 11	87.7	79.4

1/Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.



# WISCONSIN HOG INVENTORY UP 4 PERCENT

Wisconsin farmers had 1,508,000 hogs and pigs on farms June 1, an increase of 4 percent from a year ago. Both market hogs and breeding stock were up 4 percent from June 1, 1972. Market hogs numbered 1,237,000 and breeding stock 271,000.

A total of 110,000 sows farrowed from March through May, down 10 percent from that period last year. Pigs per litter averaged 7.30 compared with 7.40 in the previous year. The March-May pig crop of 803,000 was 11 percent under a year earlier.

Wisconsin hog producers plan to increase farrowings 5 percent in the June through August quarter. Intentions are to have 101,000 sows farrow from June through August. Farrowings for the September through November quarter are expected to be 102,000 sows or 2 percent more than that

quarter in 1972.

Hogs and pigs on farms in the 10 Corn Belt States on June 1 totaled 45,649,000, a gain of 1 percent from a year earlier. These 10 states account for about three-fourths of the Nation's hogs and pigs. Market hogs on June 1 were up 1 percent from last year but breeding stock in the 10 states was down 1 percent.

There were 3,046,000 sows farrowing in the 10 Corn Belt States during March through May, a decline of 1 percent from that quarter in 1972. Corn Belt farmers plan to farrow about the same number of sows as a year ago during the June through August quarter. Farrowing intentions for the September-November period indicate an increase of 1 percent from that quarter last year.

**All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Breeding and Market  
June 1, 1972 and 1973, 10 States**

State	For breeding			Market			Total hogs and pigs		
	1972	1973	Change from last year	1972	1973	Change from last year	1972	1973	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		percent
Ohio .....	341	317	- 7	2,009	1,798	- 11	2,350	2,115	- 10
Indiana .....	670	696	+ 4	4,130	4,104	- 1	4,800	4,800	n. c.
Illinois .....	1,077	1,042	- 3	5,873	5,908	+ 1	6,950	6,950	n. c.
Wisconsin .....	261	271	+ 4	1,189	1,237	+ 4	1,450	1,508	+ 4
Minnesota .....	549	600	+ 9	2,883	3,150	+ 9	3,432	3,750	+ 9
Iowa .....	2,130	2,071	- 3	12,570	12,829	+ 2	14,700	14,900	+ 1
Missouri .....	690	660	- 4	3,610	3,590	- 1	4,300	4,250	- 1
South Dakota .....	273	287	+ 5	1,752	1,839	+ 5	2,025	2,126	+ 5
Nebraska .....	495	488	- 1	2,805	2,762	- 2	3,300	3,250	- 2
Kansas .....	291	300	+ 3	1,789	1,700	- 5	2,080	2,000	- 4
Total 10 States ..	6,777	6,732	- 1	38,610	38,917	+ 1	45,387	45,649	+ 1

**Sows to Farrow, June through November, 10 States**

State	June through August			September through November		
	1972	1973 1/	Change from last year	1972	1973 1/	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Ohio .....	120	112	- 7	120	115	- 4
Indiana .....	235	242	+ 3	215	230	+ 7
Illinois .....	415	400	- 4	390	390	n. c.
Wisconsin .....	96	101	+ 5	100	102	+ 2
Minnesota .....	190	210	+ 11	185	205	+ 11
Iowa .....	620	610	- 2	670	650	- 3
Missouri .....	245	240	- 2	265	260	- 2
South Dakota .....	75	80	+ 7	96	108	+ 13
Nebraska .....	157	150	- 4	190	178	- 6
Kansas .....	90	97	+ 8	118	128	+ 8
Total 10 States ..	2,243	2,242	n. c.	2,349	2,366	+ 1

1/Number indicated by breeding intentions reports.

**Sows Farrowing, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop  
March through May, 1972 and 1973, 10 States**

State	Sows farrowing			Pigs per litter		Pig crop 1/		
	1972	1973	Change from last year	1972	1973	1972	1973	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	Head		1,000 head		Percent
Ohio .....	139	128	- 8	7.30	7.20	1,015	922	- 9
Indiana .....	256	250	- 2	7.33	7.16	1,876	1,790	- 5
Illinois .....	495	500	+ 1	7.10	7.00	3,515	3,500	n. c.
Wisconsin .....	122	110	- 10	7.40	7.30	903	803	- 11
Minnesota .....	236	245	+ 4	7.55	7.45	1,782	1,825	+ 2
Iowa .....	1,010	1,020	+ 1	7.25	7.10	7,323	7,242	- 1
Missouri .....	285	285	n. c.	7.22	7.25	2,058	2,066	n. c.
South Dakota .....	165	168	+ 2	7.25	7.15	1,196	1,201	n. c.
Nebraska .....	240	215	- 10	7.20	7.00	1,728	1,505	- 13
Kansas .....	125	125	n. c.	7.87	7.25	984	906	- 8
Total 10 States ..	3,073	3,046	- 1	7.28	7.14	22,380	21,760	- 3

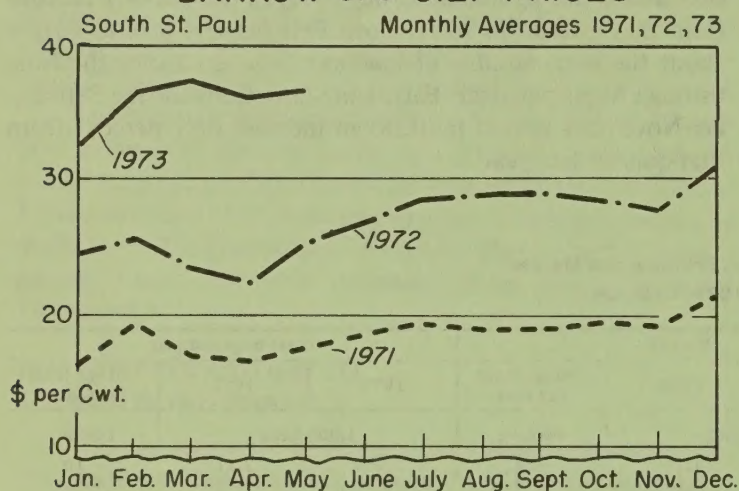
1/Number of pigs born March through May that were on hand June 1 or had been sold.



## PRICES HIGHER FOR BARROWS AND GILTS

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market increased during May. Barrows and gilts averaged \$36.57 a hundredweight for May, up 87 cents from April and \$11.17 higher than a year earlier. Barrows and gilts were averaging around \$37.50 a hundredweight at the end of May.

### BARROW and GILT PRICES

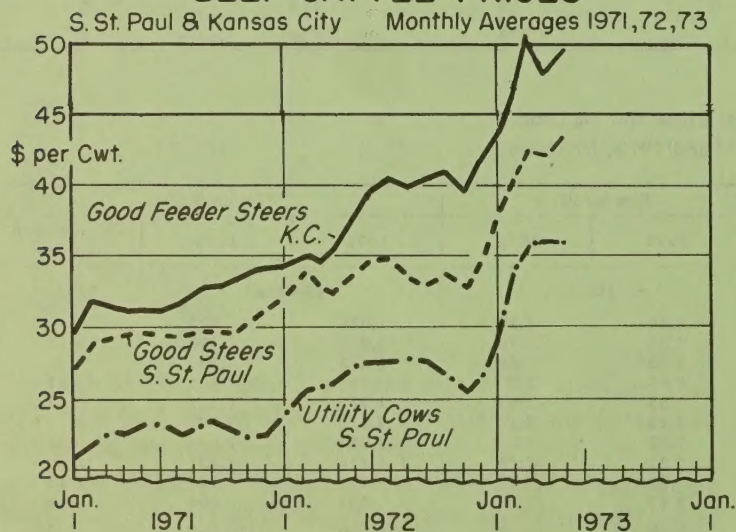


## STEER MARKET UP

Prices of good grade fed steers at St. Paul and feeder steers at Kansas City were higher in May than the previous month. Steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds averaged \$43.27 a hundredweight at the St. Paul market in May, a gain of \$1.11 from April and nearly \$10.00 more than May 1972. Feeder steers weighing between 600-700 pounds averaged \$49.70 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market during May, up \$1.70 from a month earlier and \$12.28 above last year.

Utility cow prices at St. Paul showed a slight decline from April to May. The May average of \$35.67 a hundredweight for utility cows was only 4 cents under the previous month but was \$8.53 higher than a year ago.

### BEEF CATTLE PRICES



## MINK PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

The number of mink pelts produced in the Nation during 1972 totaled 2,963,000, a decline of 12 percent from 1971. Since 1969 when the mink survey was started the number of pelts produced declined by 52 percent. There were 15 percent fewer mink ranches in 1972 than a year earlier. In the last three years mink ranches in the Nation have been reduced by slightly more than half. The number of females bred to produce kits in 1973 was up 5 percent from a year earlier but was 36 percent below three years ago.

Wisconsin, the leading mink producing state, showed an 11 percent drop in pelt production from 1971 to 1972. Mink ranches in Wisconsin for 1972 were 12 percent less than the previous year. Wisconsin mink raisers had 5 percent more females bred to produce kits in 1973 than in 1972.

Mink Production

State	Ranches Producing Pelts		Pelts Produced		Females Bred	
	1972	1971	1972	1971	1973	1972
	Number		1,000		1,000	
Wisconsin.....	322	366	863	974	252	241
Minnesota.....	162	193	421	459	130	119
Utah.....	225	261	285	340	100	94.5
Washington.....	63	91	140	195	39.5	40
Ohio.....	66	69	126	169	39	36
Oregon.....	60	62	144	155	41	36
Illinois.....	43	44	146	143	40.5	39
Michigan.....	47	53	130	135	35	34.5
New York.....	56	65	110	129	33	32.5
Pennsylvania.....	57	68	107	123	37.5	38
Idaho.....	47	49	112	119	38.5	35
Iowa.....	62	71	111	113	33.5	33
South Dakota.....	14	16	62	61	17.5	16.5
Indiana.....	17	22	32	36.5	9	8.5
Massachusetts.....	18	24	26	35.5	6	6.7
All other states.....	120	161	148	193	49	47.5
United States.....	1,379	1,615	2,963	3,380	901	858

## CALF DISPOSITION SURVEY MADE

The production of calves for herd replacements, veal, feeders, and market cattle is an integral and important factor in Wisconsin's agricultural economy. Marketing patterns and practices, as in other phases of agriculture, have changed over the years. Wisconsin is the largest producer of veal in the Nation since it is a by-product of the dairy industry. Historically, calves have been marketed as slaughter veal at about 110 pounds. In recent years this by-product of the dairy industry has been marketed as veal, prime veal, herd replacements, feeders, and market cattle.

In the ten year period of 1963-72, Wisconsin's calf crop declined from about 2.3 million to 2.1 million, or a decrease of 200,000. During the same time, the number of calves slaughtered in Wisconsin dropped from 818,000 to 233,000, a reduction of 585,000. Out-of-state shipments of dairy cattle and calves do not account for all of this difference. In order to ascertain the changes that have occurred in the production and marketing of Wisconsin calves, a calf disposition survey was made of the 1972 calf crop.

Calves born on farms in Wisconsin in 1972 totaled 2,100,000. Of these, 900,000 or 43 percent of the total was sold from the farm during the year. This number in-



cluded 880,000 calves sold in Wisconsin and 20,000 sold direct by farmers to out-of-state buyers. Around 220,000 calves or about 10 percent of the total calves died, were butchered, or disposed of in other ways in 1972. An additional 980,000 calves were reported as still on farms on January 1, 1973, accounting for the remaining 47 percent of the 1972

calf crop. The table below shows the disposition of calves from farms where born. A more complete report on the disposition of calves in Wisconsin can be obtained by writing to the Wisconsin Statistical Reporting Service, Box 5160, Madison, Wisconsin, 53705.

Disposition of Calves from Farms where Born, Wisconsin, 1972

Classification	Number				Percent			
	Sold during year	Losses during year	January 1, 1973 inventory	Born during year	Sold during year	Losses during year	January 1, 1973 inventory	Born during year
	Thousand head				Percent of total			
<b>DISTRICT</b>								
Northwest .....	85	21	97	203	42	10	48	100
North Central .....	127	22	75	224	57	10	33	100
Northeast .....	57.5	12.5	43	113	51	11	38	100
West Central .....	110	31	181	322	34	10	56	100
Central .....	65	14	61	140	46	10	44	100
East Central .....	155	43	129	327	47	13	40	100
Southwest .....	122	32	206	360	34	9	57	100
South Central .....	121	36	153	310	39	12	49	100
Southeast .....	57.5	8.5	35	101	57	8	35	100
<b>SIZE GROUP</b>								
1- 29 head .....	322	71	275	668	48	11	41	100
30- 59 head .....	454	99	412	965	47	10	43	100
60-119 head .....	102	39	213	354	29	11	60	100
120 or more head .....	22	11	80	113	19	10	71	100
<b>BREED TYPE</b>								
Dairy .....	840	182	678	1,700	49	11	40	100
Other .....	60	38	302	400	15	10	75	100
<b>STATE TOTAL</b> .....	900	220	980	2,100	43	10	47	100

## FARM PRODUCT PRICES HIGHER AT MID-MAY

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all farm products sold during the month ending May 15 were up 2 percent from a month earlier. Higher prices for milk, cattle, calves, poultry, and some crops were responsible for an increase in the prices received index. Showing price declines were lambs, wool, eggs, and hay. The index of prices received averaged 25 percent higher than on May 15, 1972.

Steers and heifers averaged \$42.70 a hundredweight in May, up 70 cents from April and \$10.40 above a year ago. Slaughter cows, at \$33.80 a hundredweight for May, were \$1.10 higher than the preceding month and \$8.60 greater than May 1972.

Hogs averaged \$34.60 a hundredweight as of May 15, the same as April but \$9.40 more than last year. Sheep, at \$9.50 a hundredweight for May, were 50 cents higher than April and \$3.70 above the previous year. This was the best price for sheep since June 1952. Lambs declined \$1.00 from April to May but at \$32.00 a hundredweight were \$2.80 more than a year earlier. The mid-May wool price of 45 cents a pound was down sharply from the April level of 69 cents but was still 19 cents above May 1972.

Calves reached a record high of \$62.00 a hundredweight in May, an increase of \$6.00 from April. Calf prices were \$14.50 higher than a year ago and double the price received six years ago.

The mid-May turkey price of 30 cents a pound liveweight was the highest since August 1956, while farm chickens were at their highest level since June 1958. Turkeys increased 2 cents a pound from April to May and were 10 cents above last year. Egg prices averaged 46 cents a dozen as of mid-May,

down 1 cent from April but more than double a year ago.

Corn prices jumped in May to \$1.48 a bushel, up 16 cents from the previous month and 31 cents more than May 1972. Oats, at 85 cents a bushel on May 15, was 3 cents above a month earlier and 14 cents higher than last year. Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$31.50 a ton in May, a decline of \$1.00 from April but \$8.50 greater than May 1972. Soybeans advanced sharply to average a record \$7.90 as of May 15, a gain of \$1.85 from the preceding month and \$4.60 above a year ago.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	May 15, 1971	May 15, 1972	April 15, 1973	May 15, 1973
Dollars					
Milk cows .....	Head	400.00	450.00	570.00	570.00
Steers and heifers ..	Cwt.	28.50	32.30	42.00	42.70
Cows .....	Cwt.	21.40	25.20	32.70	33.80
Calves .....	Cwt.	41.00	47.50	56.00	62.00
Hogs .....	Cwt.	17.80	25.20	34.60	34.60
Sheep .....	Cwt.	6.00	5.80	9.00	9.50
Lambs .....	Cwt.	27.50	29.20	33.00	32.00
Wool .....	Lb.	.24	.26	.69	.45
Chickens 1/ .....	Lb.	.085	.085	.120	.150
Turkeys .....	Lb.	.200	.200	.280	.300
Eggs .....	Doz.	.240	.220	.470	.460
Corn .....	Bu.	1.43	1.17	1.32	1.48
Oats .....	Bu.	.74	.71	.82	.85
Soybeans .....	Bu.	2.75	3.30	6.05	7.90
Alfalfa hay, baled ..	Ton	22.00	23.00	32.50	31.50

1/Excludes broilers.

## TART CHERRY CROP EXPECTED TO BE SHARPLY LOWER

Production of tart cherries in the Nation for 1973 is expected to be 47 percent below the 1972 crop. Spring frosts and poor pollinating weather reduced prospects for the tart cherry crop this year. Total production is forecast at 82,600



tons for 1973 compared with 157,060 tons last year.

Wisconsin's cherry crop for 1973 is estimated at only 3,000 tons, down 43 percent from a year ago and the smallest since 1943. Trees came into bloom the second week of May and were hit by frost. Poor pollinating weather further reduced crop prospects this year.

#### Tart Cherries

State	Production		
	Utilized 1/		Indicated total 1973
	1971	1972	
	Tons		
New York . . . . .	20,500	14,600	12,000
Pennsylvania . . . . .	7,600	6,770	5,200
Ohio . . . . .	500	400	300
Michigan . . . . .	89,000	107,000	50,000
Wisconsin . . . . .	8,350	4,580	3,000
5 Great Lakes States . . . . .	125,950	133,350	70,500
3 Western States 2/ . . . . .	13,310	2,050	12,100
Total . . . . .	139,260	135,400	82,600

1/Excludes unharvested production and excess cullage (tons): New York, 1971 - 500; 1972 - 2,400; Pennsylvania, 1972 - 600; Ohio, 1972 - 20; Michigan, 1972 - 18,000; Wisconsin, 1971 - 150; 1972 - 640; United States, 1971 - 650; 1972 - 21,660. 2/Colorado, Utah, and Oregon, June 1 forecast.

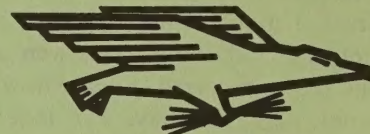
#### JUNE CROP REPORT

First crop haying was underway in June on Wisconsin farms while planting of crops continued also. Heavy precipitation in April and May had prevented some farmers from getting any crops planted before June. The wet spring com-

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bined with the above normal rainfall late last summer and early fall resulted in very high water tables throughout most of the State. Lowlands and heavy soils were extremely slow to dry out this year, delaying spring planting on many farms well beyond the normal dates. A little field work was possible during the mild March but April and May each had only one full week of active field work. Farmers frequently had to work around wet spots in their fields when planting crops. Sunshine and warmer temperatures in June finally evaporated enough excess soil moisture so that additional fields could be worked. However, there were some fields that could not be planted at all this year because of the high water tables.

The warmer weather in June was not only helpful for planting crops but it also gave a big boost to crops that were able to be planted earlier in the season. Due to the widespread planting dates this year, crops are in many stages of development ranging from just planted to a normal growth. Early oats, corn, and soybeans are progressing well. Gardens and vegetable crops had rapid development during the favorable growing weather in June. Winter grains are in excellent shape with wheat and rye already heading out by June 1. Early oats was also heading out by mid-June but only 5 percent of the oats crop was headed as of June 24th compared with a normal figure of 25 percent. Early corn was more than knee high by July 4th.